United Nations CAT/C/SR.1248

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Distr.: General
13 June 2014
English
Original: French

Committee against Torture
Fifty-second session

Summary record of the first part (public)* of the 1248th meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 23 May 2014, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Grossman

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* The summary record of the second part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CAT/C/SR.1248/Add.1.

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the annual report of the Committee on its activities

1. **The Chairperson** invited the Rapporteur to present the Committee's draft annual report on its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions (CAT/C/52/R.1 and Add.1 to 3), which had been distributed to the members in English and French.

2. **Mr. Domah** (Rapporteur) said that, as members of the Committee were already familiar with the information contained in the report, he would focus on certain sections which would be completed in due course. Chapter I, section E, on the election of officers, would state that, at its fifty-second session, the Committee had elected Mr. Grossman Chairperson, Ms. Belmir, Ms. Gaer and Mr. Tugushi Vice-Chairpersons and himself Rapporteur. Section R, on the treaty body strengthening process, would be supplemented in light of the decision taken by the Committee at its current session to set aside one day during its fifty-third session inter alia to study the recommendations stemming from the treaty body strengthening process. On that occasion, the Committee would also look into the procedural issues raised by those recommendations with a view to possibly amending its rules of procedure. Section S of the first chapter of the draft report would be supplemented accordingly. The implementation of the relevant recommendations concerning the number of States parties' reports to be examined at each session would depend on whether the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights obtained additional human and financial resources, a process beyond the Committee's control. A reference to that would be contained in Chapter II, section D.

3. **The Chairperson** drew attention to the following elections: Mr. Modvig, Rapporteur on the follow-up to concluding observations; Mr. Domah, Rapporteur on the follow-up to individual communications and on new complaints and interim measures of protection; Mr. Tugushi, Rapporteur on reprisals under article 19, and Mr. Bruni, Rapporteur on reprisals under articles 20 and 22. That information would be included in the relevant section of the report. The Chairperson thanked Ms. Belmir for having temporarily taken over the duties of Rapporteur on the follow-up to individual communications after the departure of Mr. Mariño Menéndez and commended the remarkable work done by Ms. Gaer in her capacity of Rapporteur on the follow-up to concluding observations.

4. *The draft annual report of the Committee (CAT/C/52/R.1 and Add. 1 to 3), as a whole, was adopted subject to the necessary updates and modifications.*

Organizational and other matters

5. **Mr. Nataf** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the following persons had been designated rapporteurs for the countries whose reports would be examined by the Committee at its fifty-third session (3–28 November 2014): Burundi, Mr. Gaye and Ms. Belmir; Venezuela, Mr. Modvig and Mr. Zhang Kening; Ukraine, Mr. Tugushi and Mr. Grossman; Sweden, Ms. Pradhan-Malla and Mr. Domah; Croatia, Ms. Pradhan-Malla and Ms. Belmir; Australia, Mr. Grossman and Mr. Zhang Kening; Kazakhstan, Mr. Tugushi and Ms. Gaer, and the United States of America, Mr. Bruni and Mr. Modvig. The following persons had been designated as rapporteurs for the lists of issues which the Committee would adopt at the same session: Qatar, Ms. Belmir and Mr. Zhang Kening; Togo, Mr. Bruni and Mr. Gaye; Gabon, Ms. Belmir and Mr. Gaye; Armenia, Mr. Modvig and Mr. Grossman and Senegal, Mr. Domah and Ms. Pradhan-Malla.

6. If the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had sufficient human and financial resources to provide the requisite secretariat services, at its fifty-fourth session (May 2015) the Committee would consider the reports of the following nine countries: China, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, New Zealand,

Spain, Colombia, Luxembourg, Romania and the Congo. As China was presenting not one but three reports, with two separate reports for Hong Kong and Macao, seven hours of meeting time would be devoted to it instead of five. If, however, it turned out that the Committee could consider only eight reports at that session, the consideration of the reports from China would be deferred until the fifty-fifth session.

The first part (public) of the meeting rose at 10.35 a.m.